

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-34 without prejudice.

Add new claims 35-51 as follows:

35. A pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral administration comprising a pure solid state alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole as active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

36. A pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral administration comprising a sterile injection solution comprising a pure solid state alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole as active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable solvent having a volume sufficient to effect a solution having a concentration of 0.1 to 10% by weight of the active ingredient.

37. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35 or 36, wherein the solid state salt is optically pure.

38. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35 or 36, wherein the alkaline salt is a Na^+ , Mg^{2+} , Li^+ , K^+ , Ca^{2+} or $\text{N}^+(\text{R})_4$ salt.

39. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35 or 36, wherein the solid state salt is in substantially crystalline form.

40. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35 or 36, wherein the alkaline salt is a sodium salt.

41. The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 35 or 36, further comprising a stabilizing agent, a buffering agent or a mixture thereof.

42. A method of inhibiting gastric acid secretion comprising the parenteral administration of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a pure solid state alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

to a patient.

43. A method for the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory disease comprising the parenteral administration to a mammal including man in need of such treatment of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a pure solid state alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

44. A method for the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory diseases comprising the parenteral administration to a mammal including man in need of such treatment a composition comprising an effective amount of the pure (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

45. A method of inhibiting gastric acid secretion comprising the parenteral administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of the pure (-)-enantiomer of 5-

~~methoxy-2[[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.~~

~~46. The method of claim 42 or 43 wherein the alkaline salt is a Na⁺, Mg²⁺, Li⁺, K⁺, Ca²⁺ or N⁺(R)₄ salt.~~

claim 42⁶ or 43⁷

47. The method according to ~~claims 42-44~~ or 45, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is in the form of a solvent.

claim 42 or 43

48. The method according to ~~claims 42-44~~ or 45, wherein a solution with a solvent carrier is effected immediately before the administration.

49. The method of claim ~~42-44~~ or 45, wherein the solvent has a volume effecting a solution of a concentration of 0.1-10% by weight of the active ingredient.

50. The pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral administration according to claim 35, comprising an injectable solution.

51. A method for treating gastrointestinal disease comprising injecting a sterile solution of the composition according to ~~claims 42-44~~ or 45.

REMARKS

I. Lineage of Referenced Application

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted with Applicants' request for the filing of a new continuation application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) which is a continuation of U.S. Patent

Application Serial No. 08/899,931, filed July 24, 1994 (the "931 application"), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/376,512, filed January 23, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,714,504, issued February 3, 1998 (the "504 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/256,174, filed June 28, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,693,818, issued December 2, 1997 (the "818 patent").

II. Procedural History

In the parent '931 application, a final Office Action was mailed on September 18, 1998 according to which the pending claims were rejected on various grounds. A Notice of Appeal was filed on March 17, 1999. Applicants submit that their request for the filing of a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a timely reply to the final Office Action.

III. Description of Invention and Pending Claims

Upon entry of the Preliminary Amendment, claims 35-51 are pending in the subject application. The same claims having the same numbering were examined and rejected in the parent '931 application.

Claims 35-41 and 50 are directed to a pharmaceutical formulation for parenteral administration comprising a pure solid state alkaline salt of the (-)-enantiomer of 5-methoxy-2[[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole as the active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Claims 42-49 and 51 are directed to methods of treating gastrointestinal inflammatory disease and inhibiting gastric acid secretion

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